

Amendments to the Claims

1. (Previously presented) A viscoelastic preparation comprising greater than 1 percent by weight of a glycated chitosan polymer dispersed in an aqueous solution, said glycated chitosan polymer having a molecular weight of greater than 100,000 Daltons, said aqueous solution having a viscosity greater than 10,000 centistokes measured at 25° C and a pH in the range of 5.5 to 7.5.
2. (Original) The viscoelastic preparation according to claim 1 wherein said aqueous solution possesses a pH between 6.3 and 7.
3. (Original) The viscoelastic preparation according to claim 1 wherein said aqueous solution comprises a buffered physiological saline solution of said glycated chitosan.
4. (Original) The viscoelastic preparation according to claim 1 wherein said glycated chitosan polymer possesses between 30-90% glycation of its otherwise free amino groups.
5. (Original) The viscoelastic preparation according to claim 4 wherein said glycated chitosan polymer possesses about 60% glycation of its otherwise free amino groups.
6. (Original) The viscoelastic preparation according to claim 1 wherein said glycated

chitosan polymer has a molecular weight between 100,000 and 2,000,000 Daltons.

7. (Original) The viscoelastic preparation according to claim 1 comprising about nine percent by weight of said glycated chitosan polymer dispersed in said aqueous solution, wherein said glycated chitosan polymer possesses about 60% glycation of its otherwise free amino groups, and said aqueous solution having a viscosity of about 77,000 centistokes.

8. (Original) The viscoelastic preparation according to claim 1 additionally containing one or more different viscoelastic materials miscible in said aqueous solution.

9. (Original) The viscoelastic preparation according to claim 8 wherein said different viscoelastic material is selected from the group consisting of hyaluronic acid, chondroitin sulfate and carboxymethylcellulose.

10. (Original) The viscoelastic preparation according to claim 1 wherein said glycated chitosan polymer comprises a monosaccharide bonded to said otherwise free amino groups.

11. (Currently Amended) The viscoelastic preparation according to claim 10 wherein said monosaccharide comprises galactose.

12. (Original) The viscoelastic preparation according to claim 1 wherein said glycated chitosan polymer is in the form of a Schiff base, an Amadori product or mixtures thereof.
13. (Original) The viscoelastic preparation according to claim 1 wherein said glycated chitosan polymer is in the form of a reduced Schiff base, a reduced Amadori product or mixtures thereof.
14. (Original) The viscoelastic preparation according to claim 1 wherein said glycated chitosan polymer possesses a number of chemically modified monosaccharide or oligosaccharide substituents.
15. Canceled.
16. Canceled.
17. Canceled.